



# The Messenger

## April 2022

St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*The Tale of The Three Trees* has been one of my favorite stories for a long time. We used to sing the song about the three trees in our songbook during chapel up at Brigade's Camp Onaway located in Waupaca. The chapel on the island is an open-air chapel surrounded by nature and trees. I think it really fits in with Holy Week and Easter approaching. Please take some time to read and reflect on this tale. Have a very blessed Easter!

Jenny Case

### The Tale of Three Trees

There is an old story that has been told for many years about three trees growing on a hillside, each of them with hopes and dreams.

The first tree looked up at the stars and dreamt of being made into a beautiful treasure chest, covered with gold, encrusted with jewels, and containing valuables. The second tree looked at the river flowing out to the sea and dreamt of being made into a strong sailing ship, to travel across the oceans carrying important cargo. The third tree looked down at the village in the valley, bustling with people leading busy lives with no time for God. She didn't want to be made into anything, she dreamed of growing tall on the hillside, pointing people towards heaven.

One day a woodcutter came to the three trees carrying his axe. The first tree was pleased when he was cut down and taken to a carpenter's workshop. But instead of being crafted into a treasure chest, he was roughly constructed into a feeding trough for animals, covered with dirt and filled with straw. The second tree was delighted when he was taken to a boatyard. But instead of being made into an ocean-going ship, he became a small fishing boat, placed on a lake. The third tree was sad when she was cut down. All she wanted was to grow tall and point people to God. She was devastated when she was roughly split into beams, chopped into planks, and dumped in the corner of the wood yard. She felt rejected, abandoned, hopeless.

Time passed, and the trees forgot their dreams.

But then one golden starlit night a young couple came into the stable containing the feed trough made from the first tree and said: "This manger will be perfect for our new-born baby." And the first tree realized he was holding the greatest treasure of all.



Years later, a tired traveler and his friends got into the boat made from the second tree, and when the wind blew and the waves broke over the boat, the traveler stood up and commanded the storm: "Quiet, be still" and it became perfectly calm. The second tree realized he was carrying the greatest cargo of all, the king of heaven and earth.

*Continued on Page 2*



## The Tale of Three Trees

(continued from page 1)

Then one Friday morning the third tree was startled when her beams were yanked from the forgotten wood pile. She flinched as she was carried through a jeering crowd. She shuddered as a soldier nailed a man's hands to her. Now she felt worse than ever, ugly, harsh, cruel. But on the Sunday morning, when Jesus rose from the dead, the third tree knew that God's love had changed everything. He'd made the first tree beautiful. He'd made the second tree strong. And whenever anyone thought of the third tree, they would be pointed to God.

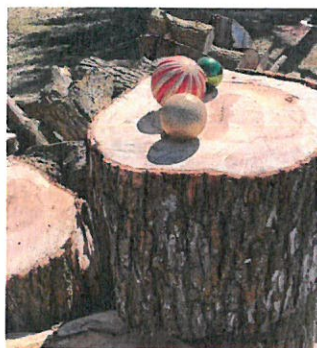
*This is an old traditional story of unknown origin. This rendition is copyrighted by Nick Follard (2001) and*

## The Axe Man Cometh



*John Olson at work!*

On a rather chilly day last week, John Olson fired up his chainsaw and cut down a couple of dead trees on the northeast corner of our property near the storage shed. Thanks John, for all your efforts, and for taking good care of our church property.



*And here is what is left of the two dead trees John cut down last week! A lot of hard work on a cold March day!*



## MOSES MESSAGE

### A Sunday School Update



Hi everyone!! We have been talking about Lent in Sunday School. We are getting ready for Easter. Looking forward to spring when new life is given to us by Jesus dying on the cross. We have been also talking about the Lent services by doing the Children's Sermon for Lenten services during Sunday School. They have been very good and quite interesting. We wish everyone a Happy Easter and a wonderful Spring.

Our next Christian Education meeting is May 1st, 2022 at 11:15 am right after church. Please join us if you would like.

### BIRTHDAYS

Avery Hill 4-5     Tyler Joachim 4-27

Happy Birthday to you!!!

With God's Blessings,

Gwen Hoehne, Sunday School Superintendent







## ST. MARK'S CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES March 17, 2022



The meeting was called to order by President Laurie Olson at 6:30 pm.

**ROLL CALL:** Mary Jane Hartley, Mykayla Tharp, Jeff Tharp, Sherri Denney, Judy Hellman Laurie Olson, and Pennie Linna.

Members Excused: Kim Wallmuller and Jenny Case.

**DEVOTIONS:** Mary Jane Hartley gave the devotions. Jenny Case will have devotions in April.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** for the February 17th meeting.

**MSC by Sherri Denney/Jeff Tharp.**

**THANK YOU CARDS:** Pastor Jon and Pastor Tabitha for working with our congregation. Jill Beverlin for preaching once a month.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

1. Current Budget balance is \$89,411.92
2. Building Improvement is \$16,438.57.
3. February giving was \$12,277.13. Spending was \$5,297.87.
4. Giving needs to be around \$3,500 to \$4,000 per Sunday to meet spending.

**MSC by Jeff Tharp/Sherri Denney to accept the financial report.**

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** None

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Worship & Music Committee** – February 11th, 2022 ~ *Submitted by Judy Hellman*

The worship and music committee met on Friday, February 11th at 10:30 am. People attending were Lois Hill, Jenny Case, Joy Case, Ardys Seelow, Betty Linna, Mary Ellen Tracey, Laurie Olson, Jean Memken and Judy Hellman.

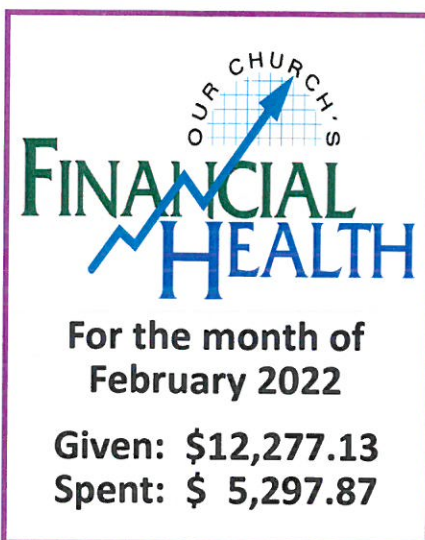
Betty Linna led us in devotions. Lois Hill volunteered to do devotions in March.

Ash Wednesday service was discussed. At the present time, we don't have a pastor. Jean Memken will check to see if we can have the bread and wine blessed; then we can have communion without a pastor. Mary Ellen Tracey, Jean Memken, and Judy Hellman will prepare the ash kits for the disposition of ashes.

The remaining Wednesday Lenten services will be conducted by members of our congregation. Jenny Case and Judy Hellman will assign the readers, assistant ministers, and sermon presenters for each week. Jean Memken will order the palms for Palm Sunday.

First communion will not take place on Maundy Thursday. There will not be any communion unless we have a pastor. Our congregation will conduct our own service on Good Friday (*Note: We now have a pastor for Holy Week services*).

Our Easter Sunday service will be at 9:30 am. Pastor Jon or Pastor Tabitha will officiate at this service.





Judy Hellman will organize a choir to sing at the service.

The Easter choir will rehearse after church starting on March 6th. There will be a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex and an announcement in the church bulletin.

We will ask the congregation to donate potted spring flowers to decorate the altar for Easter Sunday. There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

Laurie Olson introduced the Synod Assembly service project. This service project will be partnered with SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE, a non-profit organization making sure no child has to sleep on the floor by building twin-sized bunk beds. Congregations can help out by donating funds, providing volunteers to build the beds, and providing new bedding. Our committee decided to donate our offerings from the Lenten services. There will also be a box in the narthex to collect the bedding.



Our meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 21st at 10:30 am.

**Property Committee** – March 7th, 2022 ~ *Submitted by Bruce Grundman*

In attendance: Bruce Grundman, Rich Sczerzen, Jeff Tharp, Phyllis Ziemke, Ginny Schieck, Joe Deckers, Sandy Deckers, Terry Stillman, and Jason Blank.

1. Taking a look at getting new property insurance
2. We will not be doing anything with the Sunday School Leader's room until there is a problem with the heat valve; it was running very hot for a week.
3. We will still hold off on having Cintas come back in.
4. We are opening up the water fountains.

Pat Wenzel  
Tracy Feldman  
Brett Gawlick  
Otto Arndt  
Ellen LaMarche  
Anne Langkau  
Bob Hellman  
Delores Cherdon  
Ardys Seelow  
Susan Kuettel

**Social Ministry Meeting** – No Meeting ~ *Submitted by Gwen Hoehne*

The Social Ministry Committee did not meet. We met in February and discussed our plans for families getting help at Easter, a report about Community Table, and discussed the freezer issue for the Food Pantry, which has since been resolved.

We won't be meeting until May to make plans for graduation, since two members of our committee will be in another meeting at the same time for a while. If something comes up, we will meet sooner.

**Finance/Stewardship Committee** – March 15th, 2022 ~ *Submitted by Pennie Linna*

Attendance: Laurie Olson, Mary Jane Hartley, Evie Peterson, and Pennie Linna  
Absent: Fern Fuhrmann

Laurie opened in prayer.

Mary Jane reviewed the current giving for February which was \$12,777.13 and expenditures were \$5,297.87. Our giving was over our spending by \$6,979.26. Mary Jane shared that the expenditure of the new furnace will show on the March spending report. The committee reviewed the benevolences that were paid in February. Mary Jane shared that she sent money to the Appleton Conference at \$531.70.



Laurie presented possible letters that will be sent to inactive members to address whether they want to continue to be a member. St. Mark's constitution indicates that to remain a member that the member either commune or have given within the last year. We have several members who have not communed or given in several years and we are looking to clear up the membership rolls. We pay a certain amount to the Synod based on our membership list and we also purchase envelopes for members. This committee feels it is important to have an accurate membership role so that we are not spending money on resources that are not being used such as the offering envelopes.

Laurie Olson and Pennie Linna presented to the committee the possibility of having an Intern from August 2021 to August 2022. Our congregation was approached from Wartburg seminary about an intern who is geographically restricted due to her owning a hobby farm and not being able to go out of state. Pennie and Laurie have met with the intern and are presenting this option to the council at the meeting on Thursday March 17, 2022. The synod office has indicated that they will give the intern communing ability. The intern would be given a monthly stipend of \$1,600.00 a month and additional work expenses as needed. Laurie presented where the funds would be allocated from. Laurie has spoken to two families who have given memorial money which were Joyce Chase and Karen Thompson who were agreeable to their memorial money to be utilized for supporting this opportunity. In addition, a grant request will be presented to the endowment for the additional funding needed. Pastor Asher, Associate to the Bishop, Director of Transitions and Discernment has indicated that they would be able to grant the intern the ability to administer communion to the congregation. The committee supported the presentation to the council.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

#### **Christian Education Committee – March 3rd, 2022 ~ Submitted by Gwen Hoehne**

Present: Pastor Jon Gallatin, Sherri Denney, Jenny Case, and Gwen Hoehne

Christian Education Lessons—Gwen will use the Children's Sermons from our Lenten services as the lessons. We will do something special for Palm Sunday. There will be NO SUNDAY SCHOOL on Easter Sunday. The last day of Sunday School will be May 8th.

Confirmation Classes—Jenny and Sherri will continue teaching the Confirmation classes. We are looking at May 15, 2022 for confirming two students, Dakota Lemmers and Trista Nelson. We need to find out if this is possible or do we need to wait because of not having an interim Pastor. We talked to Pastor Jon about some of the requirements and he will email some information to Jean for us. We can do some of the requirements with the Christian Education and maybe Council President's help.

EASTER BAGS—We will fill Easter bags for the Sunday School kids and have an Egg Hunt for them on Palm Sunday. We will also have extra bags to hand out on Easter Sunday after church to any children that are in church that day. We will not be asking the congregation for donations. Gwen will purchase the items for the bags.

OTHER BUSINESS—There was a meeting on Tuesday at 1:00 pm for VBS this Summer. Our Savior's is willing to host an all church VBS. Waiting for more information to come.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022, AT 11:15 am.

#### **Connections Committee – February 28, 2022 ~ Submitted by Mary Jane Hartley**

Attended: Sharyn Gawlick, Betty Linna, Sandy Mathenia, Mary Jane Hartley, Joy Case, Jenny Case, and Linda Anderson



We opened with a prayer.

- We talked about the craft sale that will be on October 22, 2022
- Set up will be Thursday morning and the vendors will set up starting at 6:00 pm Friday
- Talked about a bake sale
- Raffle
- New signs will be bought because the ones we had last year were too dark. Cost will be \$45.
- Sandy will pick up.

We talked about a movie day and a flyer is on the table for the 30th of March at 1:00 pm. We will have bagged popcorn and will ask the attendees to bring their own drink and candy if they want. The movie is "Risen" and is 107 minutes long.

We talked about the Bunk Bed project for Lent that is "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" sponsored by the East Central Synod. Many were interested. The donations for Lenten services will go to this project also. They need twin size sheets.

Sharyn asked about the books that are in the Fellowship Hall. It was decided she can take them to ESTHER for a gift to the prisons. Sharyn reported they could use the gift of books.

Wednesday quilters need help tying quilts and have asked for help.

Connections has been asked to look at the church directory for 2022 to see who we know and if they are still coming or might need a call to show we are thinking about them. We will look over the list at our next meeting. We will note what we have found and let the Stewardship/Finance committee know and then help them with the next steps to get our membership roll updated.

We looked at the "People We Do Not See Very Often" list and many calls were made and cards were sent by members.

**MSC by Jeff Tharp/Sherri Denney to accept the Committee Reports.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Ministry Site Profile Committee Update:

-The profile is nearly ready to present to the Church Council.

2. Pastoral Sabbatical and Family Leave Policies:

A. Purpose—Sabbatical Leave is recommended for clergy and deacons as a time of renewal of one's professional and person life. Sabbatical leave may vary and invite different considerations in each congregation and in each ministry.

B. Eligibility—A rostered person must be serving in the ministry site for a period of five years prior to the start of the approved sabbatical leave and may be eligible for a second sabbatical every 5 years thereafter. The leave should imply that there will be a return to the same position of ministry help prior to the sabbatical.

C. Coverage and costs during the sabbatical—The congregation, with Synod and conference support, is responsible for providing interim ministry during the sabbatical. It is strongly recommended that the congregation \$500-\$1,000 per year into a Sabbatical Leave Fund to be used to offset costs of providing ministry during the sabbatical.

D. Planning—Proposed sabbatical leave is to be planned in consultation with the rostered leader and Executive Committee at least 18 months prior to the sabbatical and submitted to the

congregational council for approval at least 12 months prior to the sabbatical.

Maternity/Paternity Leave Policy:

- Paid leave up to 6 months is allowed when a child is born or adopted.

**MSC by Jeff Tharp/Pennie Linna to accept the above requirements.**

3. Community Fest Parade—July 3rd

- A float was suggested but no conclusion was reached.

4. Fellowship Money to Ukraine Relief—It was decided to not use the money for Ukraine Relief.

5. Seminary Intern:

- The intern would be part-time in June/July.
- August 1st, the intern would be full-time for one year. She will be able to do communion and can preach every service thereafter.
- Funding sources will be memorials from Joyce Chase and Karen Thompson memorials and an Endowment grant.
- Pennie Linna will chair the intern committee.

**MSC by Sherri Denney/Jeff Tharp to accept the intern and write an endowment grant.**

6. Update Quick Books

**MSC by Jeff Tharp/Sherri Denney to allow Mary Jane Hartley and Laurie Olson to do the date.**

**MSC by Jeff Tharp/Pennie Linna to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm.**

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting is April 21st, 2022, at 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Judy Hellman, Secretary



*St. Mark's Youth Ministry*

This month's Mission of the Month is our own St. Mark's Youth Ministry Program. Sadly, many of our youth have not come back to St. Mark's after the pandemic restrictions were lifted. Your gifts will support outreach and programs that are geared to our youth, helping to strengthen their faith and letting them know they are an important part of our St. Mark's family.

Some of the activities your donations will fund include community projects, national youth gathering travel, and mission trips, as well as fellowship activities for our youth here at St. Mark's. If you are interested in supporting our youth, please make your giving envelope as a "Mission of the Month" donation or donate electronically through our online giving program.



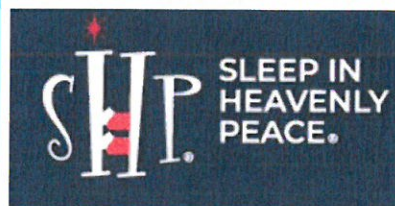
## Our Sunday (and Holy Week) Servants

Date	Assisting Minister	Reader	Greeters	Ushers	Counters	Acolyte
April 3	Sherri Denney	Tara Dieck	Linda Anderson Nancy Maslow	Jenny Case Joy Case	Jeff Tharp Kim Wallmuller Pat Westphal	Ariana Hopkins
April 10 Palm Sunday	Jeff Tharp	Pennie Linna	Nancy Bricco Karen Jordan	Linda Anderson Betty Linna	Jane Arps Ellen LaMarche Emil Leppiaho	Hailie Anderson
April 14 Maundy Thursday	Tom Wenzel	Jean Memken				
April 15 Good Friday	Sherri Denney	Gwen Hoehne				
April 17 9:30 am Easter	Jean Memken	Bruce Grundman	Betty Linna Pennie Linna	Lois Kemp Evie Peterson	Gwen Hoehne Doug Sebestead Renie Sebestead	J.T. Rose
April 24 Holy Humor Sunday	Tom Wenzel	Laverne Arndt	Pat Thompson Phyllis Ziemke	Doug Hesser Mary Jane Hartley	Bruce Grundman Lois Kemp Judy Olson	Dakota Lemmers



Easter Flowers

Starting on Palm Sunday (that's next Sunday, April 10), please bring a pot of spring flowers (lilies, tulips, hyacinths, etc.) to church that we can use to decorate the altar area on Easter Sunday. There will be a table in the narthex where you can put your flowers and sign-in to let us know if your donation is in memory of someone or to honor a special milestone. We will have the flowers on display at the Easter Sunday service at 9:30 am on April 17, and then you can take them home to enjoy at your own Easter celebration. **Let's fill St. Mark's with flowers on Easter Sunday! The church is open each morning from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon next week.**



The response to our call for funding and bedding for the Synod Assembly service project has been tremendous. All of midweek Lenten offerings will go to purchase needed to build bunk beds for local children that currently don't have a bed to sleep on. We recently got word that the Synod has received enough funding to build over 40 beds, well past their goal!

You can see from the picture, St. Mark's members have come through with all kinds of beautiful bedding for this project. Most of the sheet sets and blankets were donated in memory of Judy Koerner by her family and friends. Thank you all for your wonderful donations.

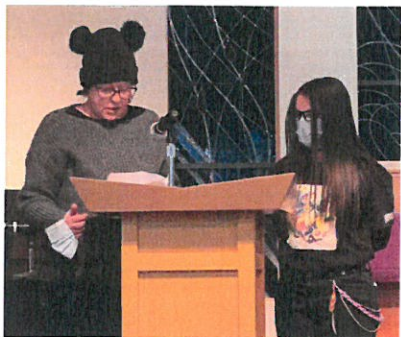
If you didn't get a chance to donate bedding, there is still time to do so. We will pack everything up and take it to the Sleep in Heavenly Peace headquarters in Appleton at the end of April. You can bring your bedding or monetary donations to the church office up until April 25.





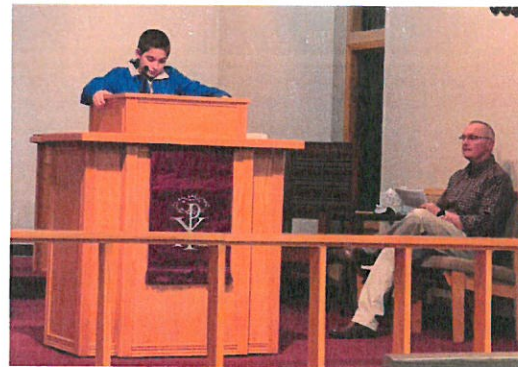
## Midweek Lenten Services Held, Despite Pastoral Vacancy

Even though we were unable to get a guest pastor to conduct our Midweek Lenten services, we still gathered and many volunteers took it upon themselves to conduct the services. Our theme was "In View of God's Mercy" and each week our assisting ministers led the liturgy, our readers proclaimed God's Word, and numerous volunteers, including the youth of our congregation, gave the sermon. These were truly inspiring services in many ways. Thanks to all the volunteers, and a special thank you to Judy Hellman to organized these services and led the music each week.



*On the Left: Jane Hartley and Arianna Hopkins read parts of the sermon.*

*On the right: J. T. Rose gives a portion of the sermon while assisting minister Bruce Grundman looks on.*



## Crossways Annual Meeting Report

by Jenny Blank



**CROSSWAYS**  
CAMPING MINISTRIES

Jason and I were the St. Mark's congregational delegates for the Crossways Annual meeting this year. It was held on Saturday, March 12th on-site at Imago Dei Village in Clintonville. Each congregation that supports Crossways is allowed to send two members to vote and guide the important decisions being made for Crossways Camping Ministries in the year ahead.

Crossways is a Lutheran based camping ministry affiliated with the ELCA and operating three ACA accredited outdoor camps in northeastern Wisconsin (Imago Dei Village in Clintonville, Pine Lake Camp in Waupaca, and Waypost Camp in Hatley). Their mission is "Bringing people together in Christ, so lives are changed, and communities enhanced." The good news is that despite Covid impacting their camp over the last few summers, Crossways was able to end last year financially in the black due in large part to support from the community, donations from their membership, and Covid relief funds.

The season ahead looks to be back to normal operations and they fully expect to end 2022 in the black again. During the annual meeting, we reviewed and accepted the minutes from the last annual meeting (which had been virtual). We received a ministry update from Sharon Cook the executive director of Crossways. There was also a camp-life update from Ben Koehler, the co-director for Pine Lake camp. They provided some pictures and an overview of the Pine Lake chapel remodel which includes the replacement of several rotted timbers and the resurfacing and resealing of the entire building.



There was also an update on another building project at Waypost Camp to fully remodel their bath/shower building creating individual showers, which will provide more shower space while also protecting camper privacy and making the camp more 'inclusive' which is a theme overall in the year ahead. There was a walkthrough of a narrative budget and some open discussion about their fundraising efforts. Finally, we voted in 3 new members to the Board and ended the meeting with a prayer. This is a great organization. We enjoyed the annual meeting and felt proud to represent St. Mark's church for Crossways.



# PASTORAL TRANSITION

Update

Your Ministry Site Profile (MSP) team continued to meet throughout March, working to complete the St. Mark's profile.

The Ministry Site Profile will go to the April 21<sup>st</sup> Church Council meeting, for their approval. The Call Committee is almost finalized and will be on the agenda for approval at the April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. The Call Committee will meet with the MSP Committee, to review the MSP document, attend an

orientation, and meet to establish interview questions. After these meetings have been held, the Call Committee will be ready to begin accepting candidates to interview (mid to late May). We have been informed that this process (interviewing of potential Pastors) could be complete as early as August or could go into late Fall, depending on the number of candidates available and their compatibility with St. Mark's.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, if you are looking to be of service, during this transition (we could use your assistance in many areas), please consider sharing your time and talents on one the St. Mark's committees, by reading scripture during a worship service, hosting fellowship, ushering, greeting, being a counter (giving envelopes), sponsoring the altar flowers, etc. If you have a talent or skill, that may not fit into one of ministry areas, please let me know, so I can help you in sharing that with St. Mark's. If you are willing to help out with our worship services, let Jean in the church office and she will get you in the rotation.

Please feel free to contact one of your St. Mark's Church Council members or a member of the MSP Committee, if you have any questions. Updates will continue to be announced during worship, in future newsletters, emails, and direct mailings.

PEACE

Laurie Olson

Council President



Let Laughter  
Spring Forth!

"Spring is when you feel like whistling, even with a shoe full of slush." - Doug Larson

"The world is mud-luscious and puddle wonderful." - e.e. cummings

"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt." - Margaret Atwood

"Spring is the time of year when it is summer in the sun and winter in the shade."

- Charles Dickens

"Easter is the only time when it's perfectly safe to put all of your eggs in one basket."

- Evan Esar



Here's a picture of St. Mark's member Linda Anderson and her granddaughter Lilly holding a beautiful baby blanket that Linda made with some fabric she had that needed to be used. Laurie Olson contacted the Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Center and told them about Linda's blankets and they were delighted to receive them as a donation. Linda and Lilly are standing in front of the Christine Ann Center in Oshkosh with a whole box of blankets Linda made for those in need. Well done, good and faithful servant!



## St. Mark's Food Pantry Receives Federal Grant

In February, our Food Pantry was informed that there was grant money available from the Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection 2022 Food Security Initiative. This program is meant to assist food banks, food pantries, Tribal Nations, and other eligible nonprofit organizations facing challenges created by COVID-19 to increase capacity and source food for distribution. Feeding Wisconsin was awarded \$15 million with a minimum of \$10 earmarked to purchase food, preferably Wisconsin produced products. The remaining \$5 million was used to invest in storage, distribution, transportation, and other eligible America Rescue Plan Act expenses to improve the network's ability to end hunger in Wisconsin.

Coincidentally (or maybe not) we received this request for a proposal at the same time our Food Pantry upright freezer broke beyond repair. Our Food Pantry volunteers salvaged the food from the freezer and redistributed it to our kitchens, but we needed to replace that freezer as soon as possible. Likewise, the pantry has been using the refrigerator in our kitchen for storage of perishables which is not an ideal setup. So we applied to get funding to purchase a new freezer and refrigerator for our Food Pantry. Pat Thompson and Jean Memken put the proposal together and sent it off on February 15th. Two weeks ago, we got word that our grant proposal was accepted and the Food Pantry's new freezer and refrigerator was going to be paid for from these federal funds.

We are thankful to all our many volunteers who keep our pantry going and to God for blessing this ministry of St. Mark's. If you have a chance, take a peek in the pantry to see our new equipment!



*Pat Thompson and Karen Jordan stand in front of the new fridge!*



*On the left: Karen Jordan, Pat Thompson and Richie Sczerzen pose by the new freezer.*

*On the right: Rain or shine, food pantry volunteers brave the weather to take orders from our patrons. Evie Peterson (on the left) and Nancy Bricco (on the right) were volunteering this past week.*



I am in awe of the stained glass windows in our sanctuary. If you ever visit our church on a sunny morning around 9:00 – 9:30 am, the windows on the east side of the church are vibrant with color that spills into the sanctuary. It is a sight to behold and the picture on the left, of course, does not do it justice.

During Holy Week, our church will be open every morning from 8:30 am to noon, so if you want to drop by and spend some time in our sanctuary, reflecting on God's love and Jesus suffering for our sake, please feel free to do so. And if it's a sunny day, check out the windows and the beautiful message they convey. — Jean Memken



## Food Pantry Update



The Food Pantry has been doing a steady business with 38 families getting food to feed 130 people in February. They come even when the weather is cold and windy and snowy. Obviously they really need their supplies. We also have some very dedicated helpers. They also come every week, even when the weather is miserable. Thanks to them we can be open every week. We are always in need of paper products, laundry, dish and bar soap, as well as, spam, tuna, jam and sweetened cereal. We thank you for your generous donations.

Karen Jordan

**Don't forget: Food Pantry Sunday  
is April 3!!!!**

## A Big Thank You to . . .

Ginny Schieck, Mary Jane Hartley, Judy Fowler, Sharyn Gawlick, Sherri Denney and Amanda, Judy Hellman, Amber and MyKayla Tharp, and Joy Case for coming to the St. Timothy's Lutheran Church Players production of *Children of Eden* in March! Thank you for being so supportive! Hop you really enjoyed the performance!

Sincerely,  
Jenny Case



## Learning about the Ice Age Trail

On March 20th, we had a real treat during Fellowship Time. Dawn Jones and Laurie Olson not only supplied the treats that day, but they also made a presentation about their adventures hiking various portions of the Ice Age trail through Wisconsin. They told stories about things they had encountered while walking the trail, and showed pictures of the beauty that surrounds this unique Wisconsin landmark. In addition, they showed the various equipment they use when they hike, and they had door prizes which were note cards with photographs from the trail. Thank you, Dawn and Laurie for such an enlightening presentation. When the weather gets warm, I'm heading to the trailhead in Door County to do some hiking of my own!



*On the left: Laurie and Dawn talk about the various pieces of equipment they bring along when they hike portions of the Ice Age trail.*

*On the right: Even the Fellowship treats had a hiking theme. Trail mix and Wisconsin shaped cut-out cookies with the trail in icing!*



*Celebrating the Joy of Faith*



*Through Love and Service*





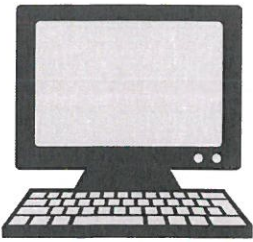
Mission of the Month:  
St. Mark's Youth Ministry

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:00 AA	2
3 8:30 Confirmation 9:00 Bible Class 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Comm 10:00 Online Worship 11:00 Fellowship 11:00 Choir	4 6:00 Esther Prison Reform 6:30 Property Meeting 6:30 Call Committee	5 6:15 Book Study 7:00 AA 7:00 SAA	6 9:00 Food Pantry 6:30 Lenten Worship	7 Wood Chippers—All Day	8 Wood Chippers—All Day 7:00 AA	9 Wood Chippers—All Day
10 PALM SUNDAY 8:30 Confirmation 9:00 Bible Class 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 10:00 Online Worship 11:00 Fellowship 11:00 Choir Scrip Orders Due	11 HOLY WEEK 12:30 FRS Meeting 6:30 Social Ministry	12 HOLY WEEK 11:30 Community Table 6:15 Book Study 7:00 AA 7:00 SAA	13 HOLY WEEK 9:00 Food Pantry 9:30 HS Pyramid Ldr. Meeting	14 MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:30 Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion	15 GOOD FRIDAY 6:30 Good Friday Worship 7:00 AA	16 HOLY WEEK
17 EASTER SUNDAY 9:30 Worship w/ Comm 9:30 Online Worship 10:30 Fellowship Scrip Orders Delivered 6:30 Neenah Baseball	18 10:30 Worship & Music Committee	19 6:15 Book Study 6:30 Finance & Stewardship 7:00 AA 7:00 SAA	20 9:00 Food Pantry	21 All Day Wood Chippers 11:30 Policy Council 1:30 Lydia Circle 6:30 Church Council	22 All Day Wood Chippers 7:00 AA	23 All Day Wood Chippers
24 HOLY HUMOR SUN. 8:30 Confirmation 9:00 Bible Class 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship w/ Comm 10:00 Online Worship 11:00 Fellowship	25 1:00 Connections	26 1:00 Program Leadership 6:15 Book Study 7:00 AA 7:00 SAA	27 9:00 Food Pantry 11:00 Pyramid Model Training 11:30 Ongoing Ed. & Conscious Discipline	28	29 7:00 AA	30

KEY

Red—Fellowship  
Orange—Online  
Green—Library  
Blue—Mary  
Purple—Sanctuary  
Pink—Lounge  
Black—Other





# Visit St. Mark's Website

[www.stmarksneenah.org](http://www.stmarksneenah.org)



**Palm Sunday**—April 10, 10:00 am—Procession of the Palms

**Maundy Thursday**—April 14, 6:30 pm—Service with Holy Communion and the stripping of the altar

**Good Friday**—April 15, 6:30 pm—Tenebrae Service of Darkness

**Easter Sunday**

Worship on Easter Sunday—April 17, **9:30 am**

Fellowship following the worship service.

*Do we have your  
email address?*

Please send an e-mail to  
[office@stmarksneenah.org](mailto:office@stmarksneenah.org)  
so we can update our  
church records.



#### St. Mark's Office & Leadership Email Addresses

St. Mark's office (Jean): [office@stmarksneenah.org](mailto:office@stmarksneenah.org)

Mary Jane Hartley's e-mail: [treasurer@stmarksneenah.org](mailto:treasurer@stmarksneenah.org)

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

**140 S. Green Bay Road**

**Neenah, WI 54956**

